

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 131159
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 131159

PASS DECOURCY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP SN SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE BERGLAND

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO SINGAPORE

1. ATTACHED IS COPY OF PREPARED ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR
SECRETARY BERGLAND'S USE IN SINGAPORE AND TALKING POINTS
FOR AMBASSADOR HOLDRIDGE USE AT ATTACHE CONFERENCE.

2. SINGAPORE ARRIVAL STATEMENT
I AM VERY PLEASED TO HAVE THIS STOP IN SINGAPORE DURING
MY FIRST OVERSEAS TRIP AS SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.
SINGAPORE IS WIDELY RECOGNIZED AS A HUB OF ECONOMIC
ACTIVITY FOR THIS ENTIRE REGION OF ASIA, AND ALSO AS ONE
OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CITIES IN ASIA. WITH ME ARE TWO
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF AGRICULTURE, OTHER OFFICIALS
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OF MY GOVERNMENT, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN
PRESS. JOINING US HERE WILL ALSO BE U.S. AGRICULTURAL
ATTACHES FROM AMERICAN EMBASSIES IN OTHER EAST AND SOUTH-
EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES. WE WILL USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO
REVIEW FOOD AND TRADE SITUATIONS IN THIS PART OF THE
WORLD--AND DISCUSS U.S. POLICIES IN THIS CONTEXT.

3. U.S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH SINGAPORE CONTINUES TO GROW. TO US, SINGAPORE REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT MARKET FOR U.S. FRUITS AND PREPARATIONS, POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS, AND COTTON. BUT THIS TRADE IS IMPORTANT TO BOTH OUR NATIONS. IN CALENDAR 1976, SINGAPORE IMPORTED OVER \$56 MILLION WORTH OF U.S. FARM PRODUCTS, WHILE THE UNITED STATES PURCHASED SOME \$32 MILLION WORTH OF FARM PRODUCTS FROM SINGAPORE, MOSTLY RUBBER AND PALM OIL.

4. IN SINGAPORE, I WILL MEET WITH SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST, PARTICULARLY ON THE SUBJECT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN WORKING TOWARDS WORLD FOOD SECURITY. I ALSO WILL BE MEETING WITH LEADERS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY HERE, PARTICULARLY THOSE INVOLVED IN AGRICULTURAL TRADE. I LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING VIEWS WITH THEM, FOR THEY HAVE A VERY PRODUCTIVE ROLE TO PLAY IN STIMULATING THE ECONOMIC GROWTH OF SINGAPORE, AND IN FURTHERING THE MUTUAL INTERESTS OF U.S.-SINGAPORE TRADE.

5. BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND SINGAPORE ARE DEPENDENT ON TRADE FOR THEIR ECONOMIC WELL-BEING. INCREASED STABILITY IN TRADE IS ESSENTIAL TO WORLD FOOD SECURITY. BEFORE I RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES, I WILL MEET IN MANILA WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS IN A SESSION OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL. THE UNITED STATES FULLY SUPPORTS THE GOALS OF THE COUNCIL, AND VIEWS THE COUNCIL AS PLAYING A PRIMARY ROLE IN SETTING THE TONE FOR DISCUSSIONS IN OTHER FORUMS

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ON WORLD AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT. THIS IS ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE, SINCE THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL IS THE MOST REPRESENTATIVE GROUP DISCUSSING FOOD ISSUES, AND ALSO IS THE WORLD'S HIGHEST POLITICAL BODY INVOLVED SOLELY IN DISCUSSION OF WORLD FOOD ISSUES.

SINGAPORE AND THE UNITED STATES BOTH HAVE AN INTEREST IN A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF DISCUSSIONS UNDERWAY, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO TALKING WITH LEADERS HERE ON THEIR VIEWS.

6. AMBASSADOR HOLDRIDGE TALKING POINTS

7. AMERICAN FARM EXPORTS HAVE LONG PLAYED A ROLE IN STRENGTHENING U.S. TIES WITH OTHER NATIONS, PARTICULARLY SINCE 1945. TODAY'S U.S. FARM EXPORTS, HOWEVER, STAND OUT AS ONE OF THE MAJOR SIGNALS TO THE WORLD OF THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN THE WORLD COMMUNITY, AND OF OUR COMMITMENT TO ASSIST IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OF THE DEVELOPING NATIONS.

8. THE GREATEST INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGES THE UNITED STATES FACES TODAY ARE, FIRST, THE CONTINUED SEARCH FOR AVENUES OF COOPERATION WITH NATIONS THAT POTENTIALLY COULD TAKE A BELLIGERENT ATTITUDE TOWARDS OUR COUNTRY, AND SECOND, THE SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS THAT WILL BRING THE DEVELOPING WORLD INTO FULL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEVELOPED WORLD. U.S. AGRICULTURE IS MAKING A CONTRIBUTION ON BOTH FRONTS, AND IN SOME CASES TAKING THE LEAD POSITION THAT ALLOWS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON OTHER INITIATIVES.

9. BECAUSE OF THE POSITIVE FORCE OF U.S. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS, SOME PEOPLE HAVE CONFUSED THE ROLE IT PLAYS AND INTERPRETED U.S. FARM EXPORTS AS A POTENTIAL WEAPON. FOOD IS NOT A WEAPON AND U.S. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS ARE ABLE TO EXERT A POSITIVE INFLUENCE ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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THEY ARE USED, AND FILL A NEED IN THE WORLD MARKET AND FOR IMPORTING NATIONS.

10. ASIA PROVIDES A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF U.S. FARM EXPORTS. THE WHOLE OF ASIA, I UNDERSTAND, TAKES ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF U.S. FARM EXPORTS, OR ABOUT \$7.5 BILLION WORTH. LAST YEAR, NEARLY HALF OF THAT TOTAL WENT TO JAPAN, ONE OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT ALLIES IN ASIA--AND NOT ALLY IN THE NARROW, MILITARY SENSE, BUT IN THE BROADER SENSE OF SEEKING SIMILAR GOALS IN SPHERES OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

11. THE AGRICULTURAL ATTACHES ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE REPRESENT MOST OF THE OTHER MAJOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS AND TRADING PARTNERS IN ASIA--INDIA, KOREA, TAIWAN, THE PHILIPPINES, THAILAND, BANGLADESH, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, INDONESIA, AND HONG KONG, AS WELL AS JAPAN. IN ADDITION,

WHILE THE AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE IN PEKING WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE, YOU ARE BEING BRIEFED ON DEVELOPMENTS THERE.

12. THESE NATIONS ARE IMPORTANT TO THE UNITED STATES, AND ONE OF THE STRONGEST EVIDENCES OF OUR SINCERITY HAS BEEN OUR FARM TRADE AND AID. MOST OF THESE NATIONS STILL NEED CONSIDERABLE ASSISTANCE TO REACH THEIR DEVELOPMENT GOALS. PROGRAMS SUCH AS P.L. 480 AND THE CCC EXPORT CREDIT PROGRAM REACH OUT TO THEIR CONCERNS. U.S. AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION IN MULTILATERAL EFFORTS, INCLUDING FAO, THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, AND OTHER PROGRAMS ARE A FURTHER PROOF OF OUR GOOD INTENTIONS AND DESIRE

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SERVE U.S. AMBASSADORS IN YOUR COUNTRY, AS I HAVE
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EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE LONG-TERM ECONOMIC GROWTH MAKES
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14. I AM GLAD TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WELCOME YOU
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /010 R

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DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:ECINGRAHAM:LGR
APPROVED BY EA/IMS:EDWARD C. INGRAHAM
-----110306Z 031930 /62

P 102020Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

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FOL RPT STATE 131159 ACTION SINGAPORE 7 JUN 77 QUOTE

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO SINGAPORE
TAGS: OVIP, EAGR, SN, US, (BERGLAND, BOB)
To: SINGAPORE
Type: TE
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